

LIAISON

BBC

20 January 1955

STAT

[redacted], Chief
London Bureau, FBIS
c/o American Embassy
London W.1, England

Subject: Forthcoming Joint Coordination Committee Meeting.

Dear Roland:

In preparation for the 16 March meeting of the Joint Coordination Committee, I have asked for some observations on those EBC MS activities which are worthy of special appreciation; and also for those factors of the EBC MS operation which should be commented on as less than satisfactory. I think that the attached is a fairly good statement (it needs rewording for inclusion in the minutes, of course), but I would like to have your comments on it together with any other information you may care to give me.

I fully expect that the major part of the meeting will be devoted to a consideration of how and where we may pick up what the EBC is going to be forced to drop. [redacted] was told during his visit last summer that the cut in EBC MS funds might be as high as 25 percent of their current fiscal year budget. If you could tactfully determine, more exactly, the extent of the EBC MS cut in funds, it would be helpful to us in planning. In the absence of such information, we are giving study to various methods and plans, some of which may go beyond the requirement at this time.

I am deeply concerned over the suggestion that Reuters may be holding up the EBC MS on the DPA service. We could, of course, cover DPA quite thoroughly at Frankfurt but it is confirmation of our worse fears that the TAES Hallschreiber service established a very bad precedent for Reuters extracting money from the EBC MS.

Please note the control stamp on this letter and its attachment. I suggest that both be destroyed after you have read them.

Sincerely,

STAT

[redacted]
Chief, FBIS

AMW:jmb

0 & 1 - Add; 1 - EBC File; 1-AMW; 1 - Exec ✓